[English]

Plan to Stop Soil Erosion in West Bengal

2364. SHRI RUPCHAND PAL :
PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS :
SHRI BALAI CHANDRA RAY :
SHRI CHITTA BASU :
SHRI MEHBOOB ZAHEDI :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have undertaken any comprehensive plan to stop erosion of the banks of the Ganga in several parts of West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps being taken to check soil erosion caused by Ganga and Bhagirathi in the State;

(d) the loss suffered as a result of soil erosion in West Bengal caused by these rivers;

(e) whether the Union Government have received any schemes from West Bengal Government in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (c). The Planning Commission has constituted an Expert's Committee for evolving sustainable strategy to tackle the bank erosion problem on river Ganga-Padma in the districts of Malda and Murshidabad in West Bengal. Government of West Bengal has also prepared 39 schemes costing Rs. 100.50 crore for prevention of bank and soil erosion along the Ganga-Padma-Bhagirathi river systems in the districts of Malda and Murshidabad.

(d) Estimate of losses due to soil erosion in West Bengal caused by the Ganga-Padma-Bhagirathi river system is not available with the Centre.

(e) and (f). The Union Government undertakes appraisal of schemes which cost more than Rupees One crore. During the year 1995-96, appraisal of eight such schemes in the districts of Malda and Murshidabad have been undertaken.

Cost of Irrigation Capacity

2365. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cost of generating per hectare irrigation capacity on small irrigation projects is as low as compared with that of the large and medium irrigation projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of cost of creation of one hectare of irrigation potential by small irrigation projects as compared to large and medium irrigation projects are as under :

Plan Periods	Cost per hectare of creation of irrigation potential at current prices (Rs. in crores)	
	By small irrigation projects	By large/ medium irrigation project
First Plan (1951-56)	566	1200
Second Plan (1956-61)	2342	1810
Third Plan (1961-66)	1969	2526
Annual Plans (1966-69)	2805	2893
Fourth Plan (1969-74)	2607	4758
Fifth Plan (1974-78)	3709	6075
Annual Plans (1978-80)	3637	10940
Sixth Plan (1980-85)	4544	21610
Seventh Plan (1985-90)	6798	50000
Annual Plans (1990-92)	8102	66570
First two years (1992-94) of VIII Plan	12730	78636

Assistance to Voluntary Organisations by Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan

2366. SHRI UTTAMSINGH PAWAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of voluntary organisations in Maharashtra recognised by the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi for financial assistance for expanding their activities for propogation and development of Sanskrit during the last two years, organisation-wise and activity-wise;

(b) whether any machinery has been set up to ensure the proper utilisation of such assistance; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) A Statement is enclosed.

(b) and (c). Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan takes all steps to ensure the receipt of Utilisation Certificate for previous year's grant before further grants are sanctioned to the organisations.